

AFRD ES&H Operations Committee
71 Conference Room
November 3, 2006
2:00 – 3:00 PM

Minutes

Attendees: Tom Caronna, Daryl Horler, Tom McVeigh, Steve Lidia, Tom Scarvie, Pat Thomas, Weyland Wong

1. ES&H News and Lessons Learned

- **Accident reduction goals achieved**—LBNL achieved our goals for Total Recordable Cases (TRC) and Days Away, Restricted or Transferred (DART) for fiscal year 2006. The FY 07 goals are much lower than the FY06 goals and will be a challenge to achieve. Our goal at AFRD is to prevent any of our people from getting hurt. Reporting any injuries or near-misses that occur will help us learn how to improve safety.
- **Lessons Learned:**
 - **bungee cords**—An LBNL employee was using a bungee cord to secure boxes to a cart. One of the hooks detached, flew upwards, and struck the employee in the face near the eye. Bungee cords are not recommended for tying down loads or seismic securing. There are safety alternatives available, such as adjustable hood and loop straps.
 - **fire incidents:**
 - **projector fire**—An LLNL employee placed a notepad in front of a projector's light beam to dim the light. The worker left the room for a few minutes and returned to find that the projector lamp had burned a hole through the notepad's backing and several pages. Don't use flammable materials to block the projector beam or leave a projector unattended when it is on.
 - **surge protector fire**-- At another lab, an employee tossed some clothing on the floor under their desk, covering a surge protector/power strip. The surge protector overheated, smoldered, and set off the sprinkler system. Housekeeping is not just to make your office look good – it can prevent hazards from developing.
 - **fire extinguishers**—LBNL Fire Marshal Gary Piermattei reminds us that fire extinguishers are selected for particular locations based on the hazards in the areas. We should not be moving the fire extinguishers around. If an additional extinguisher is needed, contact Gary Piermattei and he will help you get the right kind for your needs.

- **electrical incidents:**
 - **LOTO of multi-branch circuits**—A Hanford electrician observed a spark while replacing a light ballast. The electrician had de-energized the light fixture, but didn't realize that its neutral was part of a multi-wire branch circuit, which allows two or three single-phase, 120 or 277 volt circuits to share a common neutral conductor. If any one of the single-pole circuit breakers that shares the neutral is not turned off, then breaking the neutral connection will interrupt the wire's continuity to ground and leave it exposed with full voltage. When performing zero-energy checks for LOTO, assume all wires are energized until positively proven otherwise. Tom Caronna reminded us that meters have limitations. Meters don't measure Direct Current or some voltages and give no information. Meters should be used exclusively for testing the presence of voltage. There is some old equipment at LBNL that is on multi-wire branch circuits. If you are working with equipment more than 20 years old, have a qualified person check it out.
 - **barriers for energized equipment**—An LBNL employee received a shock from an electrical junction box. The box had been designed with a hinged cover that, when opened, exposed energized equipment inside. The warning sticker was not visible. The box should have been built with a barrier or rated materials. A similar accident occurred at the ALS a few years ago. Tom Caronna encourages mechanical and electrical experts to have someone from the opposite discipline check equipment they have designed for hazards.
- **suspicious packages**-- David McGraw received a suspicious package containing white powder. Security responded, isolated the area, and removed the package. The white powder was analyzed and determined to be harmless. The package was one of several similar packages received around the country. The red-and-white emergency response guides posted on bulletin board around LBNL contain information about how to recognize suspicious packages and what to do if you receive one. Look under the tab for "threats and violence".
- **Dig permit changes**—PUB-300, Section 10.6.2 says that a permit is required for (1) all work that will require excavation, drilling, or driving of stakes or poles into the ground, and (2) work that requires penetrating existing concrete surfaces 1 1/2 inch or deeper. There is a new procedure for these permits. You can find the application form under the Facilities Division, Plant Operations website. People intending to apply for a permit need to be trained in the procedure first.

- **Stores closure**—If you are having problems finding or purchasing any safety equipment you need as a result of the LBNL Stores closure, please contact Pat Thomas and tell her about the problem. EH&S personnel will work with us to find what we need. Please don't use the ALS Stores, unless you are part of our ALS Accelerator Physics Program or have an experiment at ALS.
- **Dark, wet days are coming**—Please use the CATS system to report any leaks or floods causing safety problems, lights that are not working, or build-up of leaves and debris on walkways that need attention.
- **Walkthrough and CATS training**-- There will be a class on how to do safety walkarounds and enter the results in CATS. It will be on November 21, from 10 AM – noon in the Bldg. 71 Conference Room. It is required for AFRD Managers/Supervisors who do walkthroughs as part of their Supervisor Safety Plans. Program Safety Coordinators are encouraged to take the class. Matrixed employees should check with their home division supervisor. The ALS Accelerator Physics supervisors are taking the equivalent training provided by ALS. Jim Floyd has invited Richard Hislop to conduct two 2-hour training sessions at ALS, emphasizing supervisor-employee interactions.
- **Chemical inventory and database changes**—Frank Rosado and Pat Thomas plan to visit AFRD areas in December to update the chemical inventory. If the software for the scanners is not fixed by December, the chemical inventory will be delayed until after the property inventory is completed. EH&S is working on establishing a link between the Chemical Management System and the hazardous waste database that will make it easier to prepare hazardous waste requisitions.
- **PUB-3000 changes:** PUB-3000 is being updated to meet the requirements of the new 10 CFR 851 regulation. The changes approved so far include: transitioning to Electronic AHDs (Chapter 6), Temporary Work Authorizations (Chapter 6), Definitions (Chapter 1), and Safety Coordinator responsibilities (**Chapter 1**).
- **CERT training for Building Emergency Teams**—Emergency Preparedness Manager Rocky Saunders would like to make Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) training available to Building Emergency Team members. Existing EH&S classes will meet some of the requirements. He is still working on a plan to make this training possible.

2. Program Safety Coordinator Status Reports & Forum

- **Fusion** – The shielding wall in Bldg. 58A will be removed by the riggers in late November/early December. A Linac test stand will be built.
- **Supercon** – There will be a magnet test in Bldg. 58.
- **ALS**—The ALS is in shutdown mode. Jim Floyd is reviewing a possible back strain from drilling. This is a reminder to think about ergonomics for other types of work than just computer workstations. Jim has also been seeing some awkward lifting positions in shops. He also reminded us to plan ahead for work requiring digging or penetration. Sometimes it is necessary to change the way the work will be done to meet the new penetration permit requirements.

- **IBT**—The vacuum system on the Bldg. 16 Neutron Generator is being fixed. The AHD is inactive at this time.
- **CBP**—David McPherson is working on installing non-skid strips on the steps outside Bldg. 71. Watch for slip hazards on metal surfaces when they are wet.
- **Engineering**—Several division safety coordinators, including Weyland Wong, have been giving input to EH&S on desired improvements to the EH&S JHQ/Training database. Engineering Division is requiring all their employees to update their JHQs every 12 months, and to complete or schedule the required training within 30 days. Jim Floyd added that people can use the enhanced BLIS portal on their computers to remind them of training requirements.
- **EH&S** -- Tom Caronna distributed a draft Service Vendor Electrical Safety Summary sheet that can be used to communicate LBNL safety requirements to service vendors who are coming to work on our electrical equipment and document Line Management Authorization to do the work.

Next Meeting:

December 3, 2:00 PM, Bldg. 71 Conference Room